

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Polish-occupied)

DATE DISTR. 18 July 1950

SUBJECT Ammunition Depot in
 Kotzenau

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1. The former German Army ammunition depot of Kotzenau (O 52/B 64) was built in 1939 for the storage of ammunition and it was improved for the assembly and filling of ammunition in 1940.
2. The depot, covering an area of 3 x 1.8 km, is well concealed in the Kotzenau Forest (a conifer forest), west of the Frankenau (O 52/B 55) - Kotzenau - Reischt (O 52/B 63) - Haynau (O 52/B 72) road and NW of the Dohna (O 52/B 64) railroad station. It is connected with the latter station by a standard-gauge railroad spur and has a track system in the depot area proper.
3. The depot installations are the following (see Annex):
 - Three administration buildings
 - Twelve solidly built, 1,000 square meter packing sheds
 - Three solidly built, 500 square meter packing sheds
 - One building for cleaning cartridge cases
 - Four ammunition working buildings
 - Two storehouses for explosives
 - Five storehouses for fixed ammunition
 - Seventy 100 square meter, semi-underground ammunition storehouses covered with a layer of earth;
 - Ten 200 square meter, semi-underground ammunition storehouses covered with a layer of earth.
4. There were no subterranean installations.
5. The depot had its own water works. It was supplied with power from a long-distance power plant.

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6. The storage capacity of the depot was 20,000 tons. Each ammunition storehouse was capable of storing an average of 200 tons. Unarmed sections of ammunition were stored in the packing sheds while live ammunition was kept in the storehouses. The amount of powder, explosives and detonation agents required for one work shift was stored in the storehouses for explosives. Ammunition was prepared for firing (assembled and filled) in the ammunition-working buildings.
7. The depot was probably seized by the Soviets undamaged and with its complete stock of ammunition, primarily of 180 mm shells for heavy field howitzers, 88 mm shells for AA guns and 88 mm shells for Tiger tanks. About 3,000 railroad carloads of ammunition were stored in the depot in the summer of 1947. No later information is available.

1 Annex: Ammunition Depot near Kotzenau.

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Annex

Ammunition Depot near Kotzenau

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